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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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FAR EAST

1. Hong Kong to keep impounded aircraft from Chinese Communists:

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The Hong Kong Director of Civil Aviation has informally assured an American official that Communist China will not be permitted to take possession of the former Nationalist aircraft which were sold to the Chennault interests and which have been impounded at Hong Kong pending the Privy Council's decision in London on their ownership.

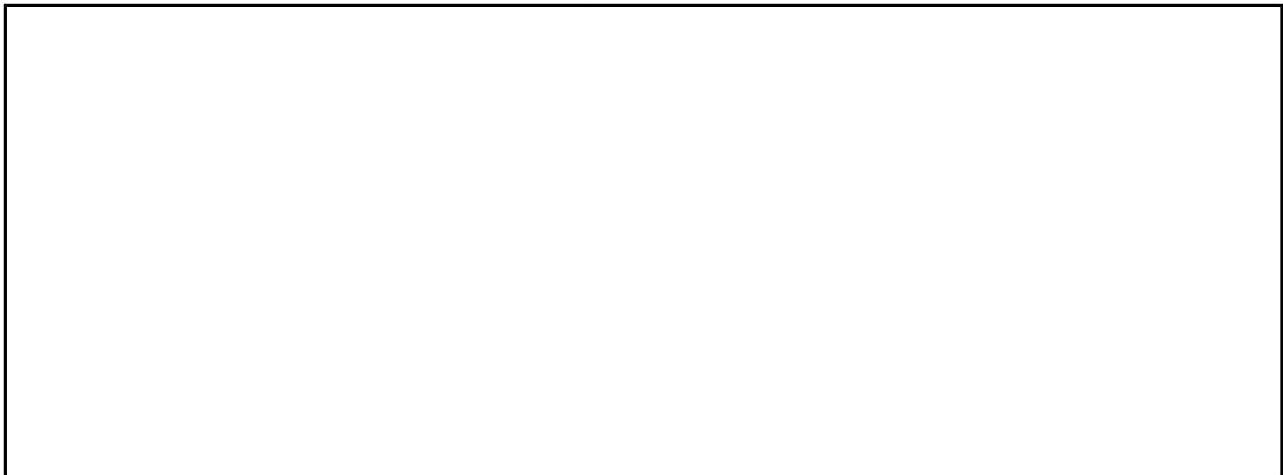
If the Privy Council decision is favorable to Peiping, the Hong Kong government nevertheless plans to prohibit export of the planes to Communist China. In the event Peiping requests clearance to transport the planes to another area, such as Vladivostok, Hong Kong would seek the advice of the British Foreign Office.

Comment: The colony's government has impounded 71 transports, ownership of which is disputed by Peiping and the Chennault interests. The appeal to the Privy Council was made to reverse a Hong Kong court's decision favoring the Communists. The decision of the Privy Council is expected during July.

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EASTERN EUROPE

3. General instability reported in Rumania:

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The American Legation in Bucharest reports rumors of imminent radical changes and such general excitement that some people are staying away from work. unidentified radio broadcasts reportedly have been counseling people to keep quiet and await instructions. There have been numerous indiscriminate arrests.

The Legation suggests that the recent purges and apparent playing down of Soviet control may have released pent-up hopes. On the other hand, the regime may have inspired these rumors in order to incite, identify and eradicate opposition elements.

Comment: These rumors probably indicate how extensive the continuing purge really is in Rumania.

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4. Polish-French trade talks stall:

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[Redacted]

The French Foreign Office has informed the American Embassy in Paris that because of a last-minute Polish rejection of French offers, no new trade agreement has been concluded. France had requested 300,000 tons of Polish coal and offered in exchange half of the strategic goods desired by Poland.

Discussions with the Poles are scheduled to be resumed on 2 July in Paris.

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Comment: [Redacted]

[Redacted] Poland was anxious to expand the variety of goods to be exchanged between the two countries. The Poles offered food stuffs and timber, in addition to coal, in exchange for ball bearings, electrical equipment and phosphates.

WESTERN EUROPE

5. Delivery of Danish tanker to USSR may be delayed until next week:

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[Redacted]

The Director General of the Danish Foreign Office informed the American Embassy in Copenhagen on 30 June that the director of the shipyard which has constructed a tanker for the USSR was "fairly hopeful" of delaying delivery until next week. The Foreign Office achieved this result after Foreign Minister Kraft's 28 June conversation with Secretary Acheson.

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